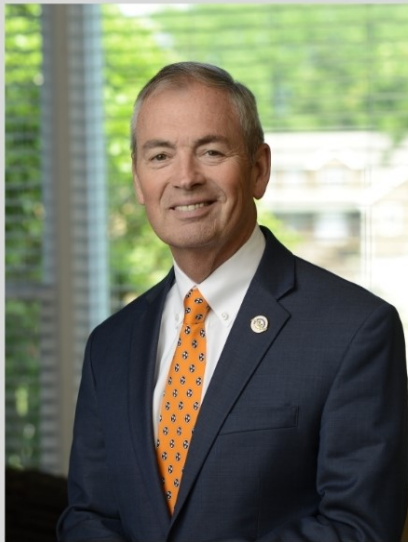




THE COUNTY CONNECTION

A Monthly Newsletter from Mayor Randall Hutto
Mt. Juliet | Lebanon | Watertown



In this newsletter:

Commissioner Spotlight:
Chad Barnard, District 4
(Page 02)

Rebuilding Schools After
March 2020 Tornado
(Page 03)

Concert Announced for the
County/State Fair
(Page 04)

County Commissioners
Honor WWII Marine Capt.
Glenn Walker
(Page 05)

A Word from Mayor Hutto...

It's fair time in Wilson County, Tennessee! August is an exciting month, as it annually hosts the nationally recognized Wilson County Fair. The fair brings citizens and visitors alike to the James E. Ward Ag Center to fellowship and enjoy games, rides, food and more. This year, the "family reunion" so to speak, will be combined with the Tennessee State Fair. The theme for this year's fair is "Honoring Hometown Heroes"—a perfect choice to describe the fair. After all the challenges we've faced in the past two years, our Hometown Heroes deserve to be recognized for their dedication to our community! The Wilson County/Tennessee State Fair also selects an agricultural commodity to honor each year and this year's choice is the "Year of the Beef". There are several events planned around the commodity and theme alike.

This month is also an exciting month because we will recognize the state's 225th Birthday. While Tennessee officially became a state on June 1, 1796, we will have a celebration at the fair this August by recognizing Tennessee's untold stories. Be sure to listen to some of the untold stories as you explore the fairgrounds.

August also marks the beginning of a new schoolyear. As a former educator, I know the excitement leading up to the first days of school. We look forward to the new schoolyear with hope that our community will be stronger than ever before. After the March 3, 2020 storms, two of our school buildings were damaged. During the past months, the demolition process began for both Stoner Creek Elementary and West Wilson Middle Schools. We'll have more updates in the following months, but as for right now this is a step in the right direction as we move forward from the 2020 storms.

I wish all of our Wilson County and LSSD students and staff a wonderful schoolyear! Also, please make plans to bring your family out to the fair during the week of August 12th-August 21st. I hope to see you there!

A handwritten signature of Randall Hutto in black ink.

Commissioner Spotlight: Chad Barnard District 4



Contact INFORMATION

791 Old Laguardo Road
Lebanon, TN 37087

+1 (615) 474-6552

Wilson County LANDFILL

MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:00AM-3:00PM

SATURDAYS
8:00AM-NOON

ALL LOADS MUST BE CHECKED INTO THE
SCALE HOUSE BY 2:30 P.M.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS
TO 615.449.6684

SALES TAX HOLIDAYS

***Clothing, School Supplies, and
Computers: Friday, July 30 - Sunday,
August 1, 2021:***

During this weekend holiday, clothing priced under \$100, school supplies priced under \$100, and computers priced under \$1,500 are exempt from sales tax. Online purchase are included.

***Food, Food Ingredients, and Prepared
Food: Friday, July 30 - Thursday, August
5, 2021:***

During this week-long holiday, food, food ingredients, and prepared food are exempt from sales tax. This includes qualified sales of food and prepared food at grocery stores, restaurants, and food trucks. Takeout food is included in the holiday; however, alcoholic beverages are not included.

Learn more information about the sales tax holidays and their exemptions by visiting www.tntaxholiday.com.

WILSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICES WILL BE
CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH IN OBSERVANCE
OF LABOR DAY. OFFICES WILL RETURN TO THEIR USUAL
SCHEDULES ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH.

REBUILDING SCHOOLS AFTER MARCH 2020 TORNADO

We've been on the road to recovery since March 3, 2020. After the devastation, we have been blessed to see so many people work together to help one another. The storm of the pandemic hit us just days after March 3rd, but even so, churches, organizations, businesses, schools and individuals were there to help.

As we all know, two of our schools were damaged by the storm: Stoner Creek Elementary School and West Wilson Middle School. Immediately following the storm, schools were closed until roadway conditions were safe. During this time, the teachers and staff of Wilson County Schools and LSSD were there to support their students. By going door-to-door, taking up donations and providing food, our school system supported the students in our community tremendously. Throughout the summer months of 2020, the school systems provided food for our students, ensuring that they had food each week. In June 2021, the demolition of Stoner Creek Elementary School began. The demolition of West Wilson Middle School immediately followed in July 2021. There will be more updates on the schools soon, but for now we are looking forward to the beginning of a new school year.

Marian Wright Edelman, a children's rights activist, once said, "Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it." It goes without saying that we saw devastation last year, but we also witnessed true kindness. Our teachers worked to ensure that their students' needs were met, and many organizations were created to help those in need, thus making our community stronger. Even though we are still rebuilding, Wilson County is certainly the 'Place to Be'!



Demolition at West Wilson Middle School during July 2021.



Demolition at Stoner Creek Elementary School during June 2021. Photos provided by Wilson County Schools' Facebook page.

August's unofficial
Holidays

August 1

Sister's Day

August 11

Son & Daughter's Day

August 13

Left Handers' Day

August 21

Senior Citizens Day

Family Fun Month

National Picnic Month

CONCERT ANNOUNCED FOR THE COUNTY/STATE FAIR

submitted

Looking for some great live entertainment? Join us at this year's Wilson County Fair – Tennessee State Fair for a concert like no other! Bates Ford proudly presents The Frontmen of Country with Janelle Arthur opening, on the Entertainment Stage Monday, August 16th starting at 7:00pm.

The Frontmen of Country feature three singers who were THE voices of three of the top country bands of the 90's: Larry Stewart of Restless Heart, Tim Rushlow formerly of Little Texas and Richie McDonald of Lonestar. Collectively these three have sold over 30 million records and have had over 50 top 40 hits among them. The Frontmen deliver a high-energy show packed with fan favorites from their three awardwinning and critically-acclaimed careers. They deliver a truly one-of-a-kind concert that you will want to experience live and in person.

Bates Ford has been providing great entertainment for the Fair since 2008, and we are grateful to Tony Bates and his team for booking these great musical entertainers for our 2021 Fair.

With eight stages of entertainment during the 10 days of the Fair, every night will be filled with so many things to see and do. Come out and listen to the Bluegrass and country music, Grammy Award Winner and Grand Ole Opry Legend, Jeannie Seely with Erin Enderlin, clogging and square dancing competitions, pageants from the Doll Parade to Ms. Senior along with our Fairest of the Fair, hypnotists and much more. There's so much to see and do that you can't see it all in one visit!

The Wilson County Fair-Tennessee State Fair is being presented by your Mid-South Ford dealers and runs Thursday, August 12, through Saturday, August 21, 2021. Gates open weekdays at 5pm, Saturdays at 10am and Sunday at 12 noon.

For a detailed schedule of concerts/entertainment, visit www.wilsoncountyfair.net.



Pictured: The Frontmen of Country will be live and in-person at the Wilson County Fair-Tennessee State Fair on Monday, August 16 starting at 7pm on the Entertainment Stage. Concert is brought to you by Bates Ford.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HONOR WWII MARINE CAPT. GLENN WALKER

County Commissioners Jerry McFarland, Dan Walker, Kenny Reich, Terry Ashe, John Gentry and Robert Fields presented an honorary resolution like non-other during July's County Commission Meeting. The commissioners joined together to honor Wilson County's Captain Edward G. Walker, Jr. for his service to the United States of America during the 2nd World War.

Edward G. Walker, Jr., was the son of Edward Glenn Walker, Sr., County Judge of Wilson County from 1915 to 1940, and Bertha Talley Walker. Edward G. Walker, Jr. graduated Lebanon High School in 1935, then attended Cumberland University before graduating from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and going on to attend Harvard Law School. In late 1940, he returned home upon the death of his father, Judge Walker.

The specter of war was increasing daily, and he joined the United States Marine Corps where he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. His unit, the 2nd Marine Division, served with five other divisions at Guadalcanal where he was wounded and evacuated to a hospital in New Zealand for rest and recovery. Upon his release from the hospital, he was promoted to Captain and given command of Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Regiment, 2nd Marine Division where he was assigned to assault Red Beach 2 on Tarawa Atoll in the Gilbert Islands.

Captain Walker was killed in action on November 20, 1943, with his remains designated as KIA (Killed In Action). Thereafter, his remains were misidentified on two reviews and, upon his mother's request, the remains of who was thought to be Captain Walker were returned to Lebanon and buried in the family plot in 1947 at Wilson County Memorial Gardens.

During 1947, the United States Government had the remains of deceased marines from approximately 50 cemeteries removed and all taken to Hawaii to be reinterred at the National Cemetery of Hawaii, where, in 2018, it was discovered that the real Captain Walker's remains were there.

After having been properly identified, the remains of Captain Edward G. Walker, Jr. were returned to Wilson County, Tennessee. A service was held on and July 24, 2021, to honor the fallen marine. An unofficial honor guard and several veterans were in attendance, along with a few of Capt. Walker's distant relatives and family friends.



Important Updates from TDOT

- I-40 from MM 225.50 - 226.50. Bridge widening on SR 171 over I-40. Thurs 7/29 thru Wed 8/4 8PM-5AM. I-40 EB and WB will have intermittent lane closures for bridge widening activities.
- I-40 from MM 232.00 - 236.00. The grading, drainage, construction of I-beam bridge, retaining walls, and paving on I-40 from east of SR-109 to east of I-840. Thurs 7/29 thru Wed 8/4 8PM-5AM. There will be nightly ramp closures for tie in reconstruction at the I-840 and South Hartman Dr interchanges.
- I-40 at MM 239 Emergency asphalt repairs will be taking place Mon 8/2 from 7:30PM to 2AM I-40 WB on ramp from US 70, exit 239, will be closed for emergency asphalt repair.
- I-840 EB / I-40 WB MM 76 The grading, drainage, construction of a concrete I-beam bridge, retaining walls and Paving on I-40 from east of SR 109 to east of I-840. Thurs 7/29 thru Wed 8/4 The traffic will be shifted to the temporary ramp in in order to rebuild the existing ramp. The overall travel width will reduce from 28' to 12'.
- SR 109 from LM 7.56 - 15.04. The reconstruction on SR 109 from North of US 70 (SR24) to South of the Cumberland River. Thurs 7/29 thru Wed 8/4 9AM-3:30PM. There will be periodic flagging operations along SR109 for construction activities.
- US 70 from LM 14.50 - 14.50. Construction of a pedestrian facility. Thurs 7/29 thru Wed 8/4 8AM-3:30PM. US-70 near W Baddour Pkwy will have intermittent lane closures for utility relocation and sidewalk construction.

As always, drivers are reminded to use all motorist information tools wisely and *Know Before You Go!* by checking travel conditions before leaving for your destination. Drivers should never text, tweet, or talk on a cell phone while behind the wheel.



WILSON COUNTY SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE CAMPAIGN

The Wilson County Specialty License Plate is a great way to support Wilson County, Tennessee. Specialty license plates are now available for pre-order for Tennessee drivers. Tennessee state law requires a minimum of 1,000 pre-orders by June 30, 2022 before the plates to go into production. So, now is the time to order yours! See page 07 for details on how to register.



Support Wilson Rides Inc.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

The Amazon smile logo, featuring the word "amazon" in its signature font with a curved arrow underneath, followed by the word "smile" in a sans-serif font.

Attention: Tennessee registrants!
Wilson County has been approved for it's own specialty license plate.

"WILSON COUNTY THE PLACE TO BE"

Specialty License Plate Information

The license plate is part of the unique identity of Wilson County and would proudly be displayed on vehicles in our county and state.



Sales to Benefit Wilson Rides, Inc.

Sales of the license plate will benefit our local non-profit Wilson Rides Inc., an organization who helps to preserve the quality of life and foster a connected community for older adults in Wilson County by providing safe transportation to local destinations.



Sign up now!

You can help make these license plates available in Wilson County by taking part in the pre-sale. **Plates will only be produced once 1,000 signatures and \$35 per plate are collected!** Plates will be mailed to the County Clerk, and you will be notified by mail by the Tennessee Department of Revenue, Vehicle Services Division when your specialty license plate is available. Usual license registrations fees apply, and your specialty plate fee of \$35 will have been pre-paid.



How to Register

To receive your specialty plates, please make a payment of *\$35 to Wilson Rides, Inc. To pay in person, drop your check off along with this form at the Wilson County Mayor's Office, 228 E. Main Street, Suite 104 in Lebanon. To register online, visit www.wilsonridesinc.org.

For more information, contact:

Gaye Lynn Wilson, Director of Wilson Rides, Inc.
gayelynn@wilsonridesinc.org
615-622-5557

Susan Shaw, Office of Wilson County Mayor
shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov
615-444-1383



Register here:

name

phone

email address

street address

city

zip code

county

*Please make payment of \$35 to Wilson Rides, Inc.
Mail check and registration form to Wilson Rides Inc,
1616 West Main, Suite 300, Lebanon TN 37087



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN SEPTEMBER



Did you know that next month is Domestic Violence Awareness Month? Figures show that nearly half of all crimes in Tennessee are related to domestic violence. Therefore, as we gear up to recognize this September as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, it is important to note that there is a new educational training that may save lives in Tennessee.

The TN Department of Commerce & Insurance and the State Board of Cosmetology & Barber Examiners are working to launch an important initiative that will train the over 50,000 beauty professionals in our state on how to recognize the signs of abuse. The training also includes how to respond appropriately and what resources are available to assist those in related circumstances. Many Tennesseans have a long-standing relationship with their cosmetologist or barber. Thus, beauty professionals have a unique position in which they may identify and assist those in these difficult circumstances.

Mayor Hutto's office, along with HomeSafe Inc., will recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month in September. HomeSafe is an organization dedicated to providing safety, healing, and empowerment. To learn more about their programs and volunteering opportunities, visit homesafeinc.org.

FREE

HIRING EVENT



SIZEMORE INC.

TUESDAY | AUGUST 3 | 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

OPENINGS INCLUDE:

Warehouse Custodial
Warehouse Housekeeping

REQUIREMENTS:

Have your résumé, photo ID and Social Security card or birth certificate on hand during the event. Dress for success, and be prepared to complete job applications and interview.

More than 20 positions available.

Pay Rate: Up to \$14 per hour.



FOR MORE INFO, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:

giveit2goodwill.org/hiring-events

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

1985 Providence Pkwy.
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

(615) 288-2389
mtjulietcs@giveit2goodwill.org



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE: 615-452-4315 | ESPAÑOL: 615-969-3260 | SEXUAL ASSAULT: 615-454-0373



WILCO POW WOW COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Saturday & Sunday
September 25-26, 2021

James E. Ward Agricultural Center
945 E. Baddour Pkwy - Lebanon, TN

- Competition Pow Wow
- Native American Food, Arts & Crafts, Music
- Intertribal Dancing
- All Dancers Welcome

For more information call Cindy Yahola 615-443-1537

Middle Tennessee Pow Wow, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) chartered in the State of Tennessee.



Scan this QR code to visit us on Facebook
CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER 2021
American Indian
Heritage Month
for the State of Tennessee